



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/995,320	11/26/2001	Wolfgang Bross	100111406-2	9508

7590 07/12/2004

HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY
Intellectual Property Administration
P. O. Box 272400
Fort Collins, CO 80527-2400

EXAMINER

MCALLISTER, STEVEN B

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

3627

DATE MAILED: 07/12/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/995,320

Applicant(s)

BROSS ET AL.

Examiner

Steven B. McAllister

Art Unit

3627

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☐ Claim(s) 1-35 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-35 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 11/26/01.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

It is noted that the present application contains a plurality of distinct claimed inventions. As claims are treated in this action. However, the examiner reserves the right to require a restriction of inventions at a later date per the MPEP.

Request for Information

In order for the examiner to properly consider patentability of the claimed invention additional information is required as follows: copies of all references (other than U.S. patents) cited by WIPO in publication WO 03/044663.

Applicant is reminded that failure to fully reply to this requirement for information will result in a holding of abandonment.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

Claims 1-35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter.

Claims 1-13 are rejected because they recite a method having insufficient technological nexus. (It is noted that reciting the computer within the body of the independent claims would satisfy the requirement).

Claims 1-13 are rejected because they recite mere manipulation of data. In order to be statutory, a claimed invention must be concrete, tangible and useful. The claimed invention is not concrete because a result is not assured.

Claims 14-17 are rejected because they claim a disembodied data record, which is per se non-statutory.

Claims 18-35 are rejected because the claim disembodied software modules, not embedded in any tangible medium.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 18-35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 18, 24 and 35 recites a software module, but it is unclear where the preamble ends and the body of the claim begins. It appears to recite only a preamble.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the

Art Unit: 3627

applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Sullivan (2003/0093320).

Sullivan shows exchanging transaction-related data with at least a second transaction tax related application according to a standardized interface data model.

As to claim 2, 3, 5 and 6, each of the two transaction tax applications uses its own (different) application-specific data model since it handles different data, and the data elements of the respective data models are mapped to the interface data model.

As to claim 4, each of the respective application data models is different from the interface data model since it deals with different data.

As to claim 10, at least one of the first and second applications is a logging module, a compliance module, a tax filing module, a tax calculation module, a tax content module, or a database for storing tax data.

As to claim 11, as broadly claimed, at least one of the applications is one of a basic and a micro service module.

As to claims 12 and 13, Sullivan shows that the mapping is governed by defined rules configurable by the user and implemented by a lookup table.

As to claim 7 and 8, Sullivan shows all elements of the claim.

As to claim 9, since data passed through interface is stored in the data warehouse, the data warehouse data model comprises, equals or is a subset of the set of elements in the interface data model.

As to claims 18 and 35, Sullivan shows a software interface for linking first and second tax related applications such that data are exchangeable according to a standard interface.

As to claim 19, 20, 22 and 23, each of the two transaction tax applications uses its own (different) application-specific data model since it handles different data, and the data elements of the respective data models are mapped to the interface data model.

As to claim 21, each of the respective application data models is different from the interface data model since it deals with different data.

As to claim 27, at least one of the first and second applications is a logging module, a compliance module, a tax filing module, a tax calculation module, a tax content module, or a database for storing tax data.

As to claim 28, as broadly claimed, at least one of the applications is one of a basic and a micro service module.

As to claims 29 and 30, Sullivan shows that the mapping is governed by defined rules configurable by the user and implemented by a lookup table.

As to claim 24, Sullivan shows a data warehouse module.

As to claim 25, Sullivan shows a software interface for linking the warehouse with at least the second application such that data is exchangeable between them according to a standard interface data model.

As to claim 26, since data passed through interface is stored in the data warehouse, the data warehouse data model comprises, equals or is a subset of the set of elements in the interface data model.

As to claim 31, at least one of the first and second applications is a logging module, a compliance module, a tax filing module, a tax calculation module, a tax content module, or a database for storing tax data.

As to claim 32, as broadly claimed, at least one of the applications is one of a basic and a micro service module.

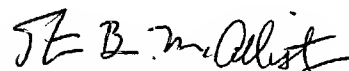
As to claims 33 and 34, Sullivan shows that the mapping is governed by defined rules configurable by the user and implemented by a lookup table.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Steven B. McAllister whose telephone number is (703) 308-7052. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th 8-6:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert P. Olszewski can be reached on (703) 308-5183. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 3627

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Steven B. McAllister